

Appln. No. 10/040,515

Attorney Docket No. 10541-759

I. Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended): A combination fitting for regulating fluid flow within generally cylindrical chamber defined in a fluid control apparatus, said fitting comprising:

a generally cylindrical member defining a bore therethrough;

a first end of the bore in fluid communication with a pump outlet;

a second end of the bore in fluid communication with a discharge port;

said the member mounted within said the chamber and having a first end and a second end, the first end having an outer peripheral surface and an end surface;
and

at least one a channel defined in a portion of the first end of said the member,
the channel extending radially from the bore and in fluid combination communication
with the bore, the channel opening axially to the end surface and also opening
radially to the outer peripheral surface.

2. (Currently Amended): The combination fitting of claim 1 wherein ~~said at least one channel~~ further comprises comprising a pair of radially extending crossed channels defined on said first end of the member, the pair of channels forming a cross-shape on the end surface.

3. (Currently Amended): The combination fitting of claim 2 wherein said channels ~~having~~ have a rectangular cross-section.

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4. (Original): The combination fitting of claim 1 having two or more channels.
5. (Original): The combination fitting of claim 4 wherein the channels are regularly spaced about the bore.
6. (Original): The combination fitting of claim 5 having four channels regularly spaced at about 90° about the bore.
7. (Original): The combination fitting of claim 4 wherein the channels are irregularly spaced about the bore.
8. (Original): The combination fitting of claim 1 wherein the at least one channel has a length and a width, wherein the length and the width of the at least one channel define an area of from about 14 mm² to about 18 mm².
9. (Original): The combination fitting of claim 1 wherein the at least one channel has a length and a width, wherein the length and the width of the at least one channel define an area of from about 15 mm² to about 17 mm².
10. (Original): The combination fitting of claim 1 wherein the at least one channel has a length and a width, wherein the length and the width of the at least one channel define an area of from about 16 mm² to about 16.5 mm².

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11. (Original): The combination fitting of claim 1 wherein the at least one channel has a length and a width, wherein the length and the width of the at least one channel define an area of about 16.3 mm^2 .

12. (Original): The combination fitting of claim 1 wherein the at least one channel has a width and a length, and the ratio of the length of the at least one channel to the width of the at least one channel is from about 14:1 to about 5:3.

13. (Original): The combination fitting of claim 1 wherein the ratio of the length of the at least one channel to the width of the at least one channel is from about 10:1.5 to about 6:2.5.

14. (Original): The combination fitting of claim 1 wherein the ratio of the length of the at least one channel to the width of the at least one channel is about 7:2.33.

15. (Currently Amended): A combination fitting for regulating the flow of fluid having comprising:

a cylindrical member defining a bore therethrough; ;

a first end having a fluid port in fluid communication with the bore and with an ~~automotive power steering mechanism~~, outlet port of a pump; and

a second end having a fluid port in fluid communication with the bore and with an automotive power steering mechanism ~~outlet port of a pump~~; and

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a plurality of posts extending axially at the first end of the cylindrical member,
the plurality of posts being circumferentially spaced to define a plurality of channels
therebetween forming the fluid port of the first end of the cylindrical member.

~~the improvement comprising at least one channel extending radially from the~~
~~bore defined at the first end.~~

16. (Currently Amended): The combination fitting of claim 15 wherein ~~said at~~
~~least one~~ the plurality of channels further comprises a pair of radially extending
crossed channels defined on said first end of the member, and forming a cross-
shape in the axial end surface of the first end.

17. (Currently Amended): The combination fitting of claim 16 wherein ~~said~~
~~the channels having~~ have a rectangular cross-section.

18. (Original): The combination fitting of claim 1 having two or more
channels.

19. (Original): The combination fitting of claim 18 wherein the channels are
regularly spaced about the bore.

20. (Original): The combination fitting of claim 19 having four channels
regularly spaced at about 90° about the bore.

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21. (Original): The combination fitting of claim 18 wherein the channels are irregularly spaced about the bore.

22. (Original): The combination fitting of claim 15 wherein the at least one channel has a length and a width, wherein the length and the width of the at least one channel define an area of from about 14 mm² to about 18 mm².

23. (Original): The combination fitting of claim 15 wherein the at least one channel has a length and a width, wherein the length and the width of the at least one channel define an area of from about 15 mm² to about 17 mm².

24. (Original): The combination fitting of claim 15 wherein the at least one channel has a length and a width, wherein the length and the width of the at least one channel define an area of from about 16 mm² to about 16.5 mm².

25. (Original): The combination fitting of claim 15 wherein the at least one channel has a length and a width, wherein the length and the width of the at least one channel define an area of about 16.3 mm².

26. (Original): The combination fitting of claim 15 wherein the at least one channel has a width and a length, and the ratio of the length of the at least one channel to the width of the at least one channel is from about 14:1 to about to 5:3.

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27. (Original): The combination fitting of claim 15 wherein the ratio of the length of the at least one channel to the width of the at least one channel is from about 10:1.5 to about 6:2.5.

28. (Original): The combination fitting of claim 15 wherein the ratio of the length of the at least one channel to the width of the at least one channel is about 7:2.33.

29. (Cancelled)

Claims 30-43 (Withdrawn)

44. (Currently Amended): A combination fitting for regulating fluid flow within generally cylindrical chamber defined in a fluid control apparatus, said fitting comprising:

a generally cylindrical member defining a bore therethrough, the bore defining a bore axis;

a first end of the bore in fluid communication with a pump outlet;

a second end of the bore in fluid communication with a discharge port;

said member mounted within said chamber and having a first end and a second end, the first end defining an axial end surface; and

a pair of ~~crossed~~ channels extending radially from the bore and defined on ~~said~~ the first end of the member, the pair of channels crossing each other at a point on the bore axis.

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Claims 45-48 (Cancelled)

49. (New): The combination fitting of claim 44, wherein the pair of channels form a cross-shape on the axial end surface.

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